

Amendment No. 1 to HB2109

Kumar
Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 2150

House Bill No. 2109*

by deleting all language after the caption and substituting:

WHEREAS, doulas are non-medical professionals who provide emotional and physical assistance in different aspects of reproductive health; and

WHEREAS, doulas provide additional support during the prenatal period, labor and delivery, and postpartum period; and

WHEREAS, doulas can improve cultural congruency, greater access to linguistic needs, and an understanding of the challenges faced by communities experiencing the highest burden of birth disparities; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The department of health shall collaborate with the bureau of TennCare to study existing doula certification programs. This collaboration must review the training and quality requirements of doula certifications and consider potential recommendations regarding doula services for populations most at risk for poor perinatal outcomes. The department of health and the bureau of TennCare may receive input from parties concerned with this study. The department and the bureau shall provide a report on the study to the members of the general assembly and to the legislative librarian by December 31, 2022. As used in this act, "doula services" means services provided by a trained non-medical professional to support women and families throughout labor and birth, and intermittently during the prenatal and postpartum periods.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.